Growth rate in Ninth Plan

883. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ninth Five Year Plan is going to record a lowest growth-rate in the last two decades;

(b) if so, the comparative details of GDP growth-rate in last three Plans;

(c) the reasons for the slow growth-rate in the Ninth Plan period; and

(d) whether due to the aggressive implementation of economic reforms Government have failed to increase the growth-rate during the current Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Based on the Advance Estimates of the National Income, 2001-02, brought out by the Central Statistical Organisation, the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) is likely to achieve a GDP growth-rate of 5.35 per cent per annum.

(b) The GDP growth-rates for the last three plan (Sixth (1980-85), Seventh (1985-90) and Eighth (1992-97) were 5.62, 5.93 and 6.69 per cent per annum respectively.

(c) and (d) The main reasons for low growth emanate from poor agricultural performance and shortfall in public investment and savings.

Decline in expenditure on food items

884. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Central Statistical Organisation data that expenditure on food declined by 4 per cent in normal terms and 2.7 per cent in inflation adjusted rates during 2000- 2001;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of consumption levels;

(c) the reasons for this decline; and

(d) the item-wise expenditure which has recorded a decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The estimates of Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE) on Food registered a decline of 1.4 per cent in nominal terms and 2.7 per cent in real terms